AN OVERLAND JOURNEY.

IX.-THE AMERICAN DESERT. Editorial Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune. STATION 18, P. P. EXPRESS Co., June 2.

The clouds, which threatened rain at the Station on Prairie Dog Creek, whence I wrote two days ago, were dissipated by a violent gale, which threatened to overturn the heavy wagon in which my fellow-passengers and I were courting sleep-had it stood broadside to the wind, it must have gone over. It is customary, I learn, to stake down the wagons encamped on the ope's prairie; in the valleys of the creeks, where the Company's Stations are located, this precautio'a is deemed superfluous. But the winds which sveep the high prairies of this region are terrible; the few trees that grow thinly along the erer k bottoms rarely venture to raise their heads abrave the adjacent bluffs, to which

they owe their dou otful hold on existence. For more than a hundred miles back, the soil has been steadily degenerating, until here, where we strike the Republican, which has been far to the north of us since we left it at Fort Riley, 300 miles back, we seem to have reached the some of barrenness and desolation. We left this morning Station 17 on a little creek entitled Gouler, at least 30 miles back, and did not see a tree and but one banch of low shrubs in a dry watercourse throughout our dreary morning ride, till we came in sight of the Republican, which has a little-a very little -acrubby cottonwood nested in and along its bleffs just here, but there is none beside for miles, save a little lurking in a ravine which makes down to the river from the north. Of grass there is Ettle, and that little of miserable quality-either a scapty furze or coarse alkaline sort of rush, less fit for food than physic. Soil there is none but an inch or so of intermittent grass-root tangle based on what usually seems to be a thin stratum of clay, often washed off so as to leave nothing but a slightly argillaceous sand. Along the larger water-courses -this one especially-this sand seems to be as pure as Sahara can boast.

The dearth of water is fearful. Although the whole region is deeply seamed and guilled by water-courses-now dry, but in rainy weather mill streams-no springs burst from their steep sides. We have not passed a drop of living water in all our morning's ride, and but a few pailfulls of muddy moisture at the bottoms of a very few of the fast-drying sloughs or sunken holes in the beds of dried-up creeks. Yet there has been much rain here this season, some of it not long ago. But this is a region of sterility and thirst. If utterly unfed. the grass of a season would hardly suffice, when dry, to nourish a prairie-fire.

Even the animals have deserted us. No Buffalo

have been seen this year within many miles of us, though their old paths lead occasionally across this country; I presume they pass rapidly through it, as I should urgently advise them to do; not a Gray Wolf has honored us with his company to-day-he prefers to live where there is something to eatthe Prairie-Dog also wisely shuns this land of staryation; no animal but the Gopper (a little creature, between a mouse and a ground-squirrel) abounds here; and he burrows deep in the sand and picks up a living, I cannot guess how; while a few Hawks and an occasional Prairie-Wolf (aoyota) lives by picking here and there a Gopper. They must find him disgustingly lean.

I would match this Station and its surroundings against any other scene on our continent for desolation. From the high prairie over which we approach it, you overlook a grand sweep of treeless desert, through the middle of which flows the Republican, usually in several shallow streams separated by sandbars or islets-its whole volume being far less than that of the Mohawk at Utica, though it has drained above this point an area equal to that of Connecticut. Of the few scrubby cottonwoods lately cowering under the bluffs at this point, most have been cut for the uses of the Station, though logs for its embryo house are drawn from a little clump, eight miles distant. A broad bed of sand indicates that the volume of water is sometimes a hundred fold its present amount, though it will doubtless soon be far less than it now inches. On every hand, and for many miles above and below, the country above the bluffs is such as we have passed over this morning. A dead mulebitten in the jaw this morning by a rattlesnakelies here as if to complete the scene. Off the track to Pike's Peak, all is dreary, solitude and silence.

Speaking of Rattlesnakes-I hasten to retract the skepticism avowed in a former letter as to the usual and welcome residence of these venomous serpents in the Prairie-Dog's burrow. The evidence of the fact is too direct and reliable to be g-insayed. A credible witness testifies that he and others once undertook to drown out a Prairie-Dog in his domicil, and, when sufficient water had been rapidly poured in, out came a Prairie-Dog, an Owl and a Rattlesnake all together. In another case a tremendous rain raised a creek so that it suddenly overflowed a Prairie-Dog town, when the general stampede of Prairie-Dogs, Owls and Rattlesnakes was a sight to behold. It is idle to attempt holding out against facts; so I have pondered this anomaly until I think I clearly comprehend it. The case is much like that of some newspaper establishments. whose proprietors, it is said, find it convenient to keep on their staff "a broth of a boy" from Tipperary, standing six feet two in his stockings and measuring a yard or more across the shoulders. who stands ready, with an illegant brogue, a twinkle in his eye and a hickory sapling firmly grasped in his dexter fist, to respond to all choleric, peremptory customers, who call of a morning, hot with wrath and bristling with cowhide, to demand a parley with the editor. The Cayota is a gentleman of an inquiring, investigating turn, who is an adept at excavation, and whose fondness for Prairie-Dog is more ardent than flattering. To dig one out and digest him would be an easy task, if he were alone in his den, or with only the Owl as his partner; but when the firm is known to be Prairie-Dog, Rattlesnake & Co., the Cayota's passion for subterranean researches is materially cooled. The Rattlesnake is to the concern what the Fighting Editor is to the journalistic organizations aforesaid. And thus, while my faith is enlarged, is my reason satisfied.

-A word now on the Antelope. I liked him when I first saw him, days ago: I then wished for a better acquaintance, which wish has since been gratified; and since I dined with him (that is, off him) my esteem has ripened into affection. Of the many Antelopes I have seen, I judge a majority considerably larger than the deer of our Eastern forests-not so tall nor (perhaps) so long, but heavier in body, while hardly less swift or less graceful in motion. He is the only animal I have seen here that may justly boast of either grace or beauty. His flesh is tender and delicate—the choicest esting I have found in Kansas. Shy and fleet as he is

hunter assures me that, with all 'ste timidity, he is easily taken by the knowing, To follow him is absurd; his scent is too geen, his fear too great; but go upon a high rairie, to a spot whence you can overlook fifter a or twenty square miles; there crouch in a he dow or in the grass, and hoist your handkereb ef, or some red, fluttering scarf on a light price, which you wave gently and patiently in the air: soon the Antelope, if there be one within sight, perceives the strange apparition: his curiosity is excited: it masters his caution; he makes toward the strange object, and keeps drawing nearer and nearer till he is within fifteen or twenty rods. The rest requires no instruction.

STATION, 21, June 3, (evening.) 1859. Since I wrote the foregoing, we have traveled ninety miles up the south branch of the Republican (which forks just above Station 18) and have thus pursued a course somewhat south of west. In all these ninety miles, we have passed just two live streams making in from the South-both together running scarcely water enough to turn a grindstone. In all that ninety miles, we have not seen wood enough to make a decent pig-pen. The bottom of the river is perhaps half a mile in average width; the soil in good part clay and covered with a short, thin grass; the blaffs are maked sandheaps; the rock, in the rare cases where any is exposed, an odd conglomerate of petrified clay with quartz and some specks that resemble cornelian. Beside this, some of the bluffs, where clay overlies and is blended, under peculiar circumstances, with the sand below it, a sort of rock seems to be formed or in process of formation. Water is obtained from the apology for a river, or by digging in the sand by its side; in default of wood, corrols (cattle-pens) are formed at the stations by laying up a heavy wall of clayey earth flanked by sods, and thus excavating a deep ditch on the inner side, except at the portal, which is closed at night by running a wagon into it. The tents are sodded at their bases; houses of sods are to be constructed so soon as may be. Such are the shifts of kuman ingenuity in a country which has probably not a cord of growing wood to each township of land.

Six miles further up, this fork of the Republican emerges from its sandy bed, in which it has been lost for the twenty-five miles next above. Of course, it loses in volume in passing through such a land of drouth. Probably thirty times to-day we have crossed the broad, sandy beds of creeks running down from the high prairies-creeks which in Winter and early Spring are sweeping torrents, but now are wastes of thirsty sand. Thus has it been for ninety miles-thus is it for many miles above and I presume many also below. The road from Leavenworth to Denver had to be taken some 50 miles north of its due course to obtain even such a passage through the American Desert; on a direct line from the head of Solomon's Fork, it must have passed over some 200 miles of entire absence of wood and water. -I have seen, during the last three or four days,

several bands of wild Indians-Arapahoes, Chevennes, Kioways, Sionx, &c., -mainly the two former. Of these the Arapahoes have been the most numerous and repulsive. Their children swarmed around us at Station 16-the men being mainly absent on a marauding expedition against the Pawnees-the women staying in their lodges. The young ones are thorough savages-their allowance of clothing averaging six inches square of buffalo skin to each, but so unequally distributed (as is the case with wordly goods in general) that the majority have a far scantier allowance. A large Cheyenne village is encamped around Station 19, where we stopped last night; and we have been meeting squads of these and other tribes several times a day. The Kioways are camped some eight miles from this spot. They all profess to be friendly, though the Cheyennes have twice stopped and delayed the express wagons on pretense of claiming payment for the injury done them in cutting wood, eating grass, scaring away game, &c. They would all like to beg, and many of them are deemed not disinclined to steal. We are to pass through several more encompments, but expect no trouble from them. The Cheyennes are better clad, and seem to have more self-respect than the Arapahoes, but they are all is. Its average depth cannot now exceed six low in the scale of intellectual and moral being, and must fade away unless they can be work. More of them hereafter.

-The unusual dullness of this letter is partly accounted for by an accident. Two evenings since, just as we were pearing Station 17, where we were to stop for the night, my fellow-passenger and I had a jocular discussion on the gullies into which we were so frequently plunged, to our personal discomfort. He premised that it was a consolation that the sides of these gullies could not be worse than perpendicular; to which I required with the assertion that they could be and were-for instance, where a gully, in addition to its perpendicular descent had an inclination of 45 degrees or so to one side the track. Just then a violent lurch of the wagon to one side, then to the other, in descending one of these jolts, enforced my position. Two minutes later, as we were about to descend the steep bank of the creek intervale, the mules acting perversely, my friend stepped out to take them by the head, leaving me alone in the wagon. Just then, we began to descend the steep pitch, the driver pulling up with all his might, when the left rein of the leaders broke, and the team was in a moment sheared out of the road and ran diagonally down the pitch. In a second, the wagon went over, hitting the ground a most spiteful blow. I of course went over with it, and when I rose to my feet as soon as possible, considerably bewildered and disheveled, the mules had been disengaged by the upset and were making good time across the prairie, while the driver, considerably hurt, was getting out from under the carriage to limp after them. I had a slight out on my left check and a worse one below the left knee, with a pretty smart concussion generally, but not a bone started nor a tendon strained, and I walked away to the Station as firmly as ever, leaving the superintendent and my fellow-passenger to pick up the pieces and guard the baggage from the Indians who instantly swarmed about the wreck. I am sore yet, and a little lame, but three or four days' rest-if I can ever get it-will make all right. This is the first and only accident that has happened to the Express line, though it has run out some thirty passage-wagons from Leavenworth, and perhaps balf so many back from Denver. And this was the result of a casualty for which neither driver nor Company was to blame.

-Three days hence, I hope to be at Denver (185 miles distant), whence our latest advices are very cheering to the hearts of the legions of faint and weary gold-seekers we have passed on the way. I trust, for their sakes, that this news will prove fully true. But you will have heard by telegraph before this can reach you.

BURGLARY .- Mrs. Elizabeth Virtue of No. 252 Sixth ing I have found in Kansas. Shy and fleet as he is, he is the chief sustenance at this season of the Indians out of the present Buffalo range. An old the accused, Justice Breunan committed him for trial. FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, June 16, 1859.

espondent.

It is rather refreshing to see the organs of this Administration, after expenditures exceeding \$81. 000,000 in its first year, according to the official stat ements of the Secretary of the Treasury, pretchaing to set up for economy and retrenchment. They may probably claim these merits, in consideration of not having spent as much more, as probably they would have done, had not the money stopped short. After running this career of extravagence since March, 1857, and boasting of it into the bargain, no w when a general sentiment of indignation is reused and expressed, and a Presidential canvass is approaching, they begin by compulsion to haul in their horns, and to close some of the spigots, which have been loose for two years, allowing the bungs however, full head as usual. Then all at once, Mr. Cobb is glorified into a vast reformer, for stopping a few leaks in the Custom House, as if it was not as much his doty eighteen months ago. This small attempt to throw dust in the eyes of the people, will not answer, for Mr. Cobb deserves to be arraigned for allowing culpatile abuses to continue, when they were just as notorious then as now. But for the diminution of revenue, by which these supernumerary salaries could not be paid, even this patry attempt would not have been made, which after all, hardly reaches to the dignity of a fraction in the public expenditures When the Republican side of the House endeavored to reduce the expense of collecting the revenue, at both sessions of the last Congress every movement was resisted by Mr. Letcher and others the immediate spokesmen of Mr. Cobb. They said, the cost could not be dispinished, with proper regard to the public service, and hence the full appropriations were made by a Democratic Congress. If reductions are now introduced, it only proves they have been wilfully retained thus long, for the benefit of parti-

A semi-official explanation concerning the am-

munition provided for the Paraguay expedition appeared this morning, and, as is well known, under the inspiration of the Navy Department. It admits precisely what was charged in this correspendence, namely, that the report of the ordnance officer to Commodore Shubrick, and his report to the Secretary of the Navy, stated there were but seren hours of ammunition on hand, when the fleet mustered for active service. The admission covers the whole ground of the original charge, and the lame efforts at extenuation are simply ridiculous in the eyes of military men, for which somebody deserves either impeachment or court-martial. It is alleged in justification of this most criminal omis-sion of duty, that the British fleet only required six hours to destroy Sweaborg; but at the same time it is not pretended that their ammunition was ex-heusted at the end of that time. The question is not what has been accomplished within a give time, but whether there was not a most u pardon able offense against all military science and com-mon prudence, in ordering a fleet to such service, in the heart of an enemy's country, five thousand miles away from home, with but seven hours' ammunition. It is assumed that there was only one fort—Tres Boccas—in Paraguay to be encountered. No such information exists, and if it did, the material fact would not be changed. In the affair of the Water Witch in 1855, which was one of the causes of the recent difficulty, the first shots from an ordinary river fort, without preparation of any sort, carried away the wheel of the vessel, cut the rope and killed the helmsman, beside hulling ber ten times, so that she was glad to retreat. With any such firing as this, considering the ob-structions to navigation Lopez could have suck, it is not supposing too much to believe that, with competent engineers, the Paragua, ans might have easily disabled all the force that could ascend the river. As to the militia steamers of the Cromwell hne-purchased from Mr. Toucey's former partner -they could not stand a volley of musketry. But we will see exactly how the case stands after Congress shall ventilate it thoroughly.

If members of this Administration were as much moved by respect for public opinion as some of the royal family are, and have been in England, by re-signing their places under well founded imputations of discredit, there would be an immediate re-construction of the Csbinet. The Duke of Csmbridg is said to be about resigning his commission as chief of the Horse Guards, owing to charges of abuse in the transfer of commissions. His nucle, the Duke of York, was forced to do the same thing fifty years ago, for still more flagrant trafficking. It will be established next Session, unless the evidence is purchased up in the meantime, that a regular bar-gain was made between members of the Cabinet and certain outsiders, for the purchase of votes to carry Lecompton. The correspondence has been seen, in the original autographs of the pacties, together with the contract, which was regularly signed. The distribution of patronage, among the defeated Lecomptonites, and the claims preferred by those who have not been provided for, show by morable occasion. Every man had his price registered, after the most orthodox rule of Walpole

WASHINGTON, June 18, 1859. It seems the Democracy are bent upon having Mr. Seward as the candidate of the Opposition, and nobody else. All their efforts and hopes are turned in that direction, and already the notes of preparation are sounded, as if it were an accomplished fact Their disinterested devotion and zeal are well known, and especially in reference to the man who, above all others, has been the object of their calumny and persecution. Now, if it should happen that policy or other reasons might recommend a different selection in 1860., or if Mr. Seward should decline the use of his name, all this patriotic solicitude would turn out to be misplaced, and toe Democracy would find the ammunition they had been so carefully collecting entirely useless. It will require all their discrimination to select a candidate at Charleston who will have a chost of a chance under the best circumstances. as the Opposition are concerned they mean to take their own time in choosing their ow man, and with special reference to a candidate who will be sure of success. If the Democracy can find any comfort in this assurance, they are quite welcome to it, without charge. They may be sure of one thing, and that is, we shall tumble them neck and heels out of office, early on the morning of the 4th of March, 1861, and isaugurate a President who will restore the ancient dignity and integrity of the Government. That much is fixed, and they fmay as well begin to put their houses in order.

The intelligence from Utah is discouraging to the continuation of peace in that Territory. The Mor-mors consider that they have complete possession of Gov. Cumming, and his recent employment of one of their number to execute a warrant properly belonging to an officer of the United States, seemed to encourage this idea. The manner in which that duty was performed has doubtless served to show him that conciliation was a mistaken reliance. The Mormon Marshal reported that there were no militia to disperse-when the fact is notorious that they had collected in large numbers to resist the Federal troops in a certain contingency. The recent accessions to the population of Utah from Great Britain have only served to aggravate the difficulties heretofore existing, and the opinion is strongly entertained in well-informed quarters that a colision must sooner or later occur. Meanwhile, the Government is compelled to maintain a small standing army of 2,000 men in the Territory, while the Indians are butchering our citizens elsewhere, for want of sufficient protection, on some of the great traveled routes.

In this connection, it may be stated that several combinations or companies have been formed in New-York and elsewhere, with reference to the purchase of the Mormon rights and property in Utah by the Government, as a ready means of solving this expensive problem by filling their ockets. If the Treasury was in a mor perous condition, this movement would soon assume practical shape and proportions. In any event, the lobby may adopt it as one of their leading measures next session. Steps have already been taken to bring forward the Oregon war debt, a large portion of which is understood to have been

purchased for account in this city, as a promispeculation, even i scaled at a heavy discourt upon the face of the claims. The next House of Repre-matrices may be found, however, less pliant than some others have proved to be, and there will be vigilant eyes about to detect, any signs of weakness or surrender to these "...nal schemes.

KANSAS CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

A REPUBLICAN MAJORITY.

From Cur Own Correspondent. LAWRENCE, K T., June 12, 1859. Intelligence got to Lawrence last night that makes certain that the Republicans will have a good majority in the Constitutional Convention. Several counties are yet to hear from, which will add to the Republican majority. The Republicans carried Lynn Cennty, electing two radical Republicans-Mesers Arthur and Lamb. Atchison County has gone Republican by 80 majority. Doniphan County has elected I Republican and 4 Democrats. It was reported wholly Democratic.

Elated by their success in Leavenworth and Doniphan Counties the Democracy at once brasted that they had carried the whole Territory, and as the Republican vote was not out fully there seemed serious cause for appreheus on. A systematic and deep laid plan has been laid, evidently at Washingtoo, by which it was hoped that a majority of the delegates might be carried. An adout secret canvass; thorough organization of their forces, and fraudulent voting of all kinds. That both Doniphan and Leavenworth counties were really carried by freudulent votes is pretty certain.

The representation to the Constitutional Convention is of fifty two delegates. The latest advices make it figure up thus:

Counties Delegates Courties Team Whee, Breckenridge, Orașe and Marris. Madisen, Greenwood, Butler and Hunter. Richardson, Davis & Dickinson

efferson Republican majority....6 Of the last Bourbon and McGree are claimed by the Democrats just as they claimed other counties. In that county the Free-State and Democratic tickets fused, as against the R-publican. It would

not be at all surprising if it has gone Republican yet. Jefferson is a close contest, and but for frauds in the Kaw half-breed lands opposite Lecompton it would certainly be Repushcan. A county seat contest was mixed up with it, and so fraud had a chance. Brown and Potawatamie Counties are, I suppose, Republican. There the party ran as Republican and "Conservative Republican," if you know what that is. As for Marshall, Washington and Arapaboe, we know nothing now, and are not likely to know. I suppose that in Marshall, up at Marysville, they have elected one of their own. Just at the time a Government train was dispatched that way, and would be about Mary-ville on election. If they have carried on the old "Mary-ville Jig." by which fourteen men marched round a house until they had polled up-ward of 600 votes, it is likely that a Democratic representative will come from toat quarter. I think there the result is safe. I do not think that even Sam Medary would dare to attempt any charge of the result with such a large majority. I

And so Republicanism in Kansas, and her peo ple, may breathe freer. The more bitter aspects of the struggle are not to be reopened. Let us, at least, hope not. The great center of the Republican heart of Kansas has saved her. Those who love Republicanism for tchat it is -a dimoess might be on their 'scutcheon, and a faise security apathy, but could not entail defeat. In La worth, where cunning political quacks sought to cater for the votes of anti-Republicans, where policy was to supersede principle, and cunning about its apparation to touch the banner of Republication fell. Many, many noble Republican hearts were, for the time, beat down with it. Let every Kepublican read the hand writing on the wall Dishonesty is not the best policy. Surely a blessing must follow those who are true to God and Hu-

The latest news from Pike's Peak is of a singular y favorable character. No such favorable re-ports have ever come from Pike's Peak as the last Expresses have brought. While the fugitives f.om Humbug" are fleeing in terror, and spreading doleful and more doleful tidings, and selling their teams and outsits for a song, le, the news comes about men making \$100 per day! What does all this mean ? Weil, let the Amer can people, or the gold-hanting portion thereof, thank Providence that Mr. Greeley is at the mines just at the nick of time. I hear he tas arrived at Denver City, and I suppose by this time you are posted. One thing is certain—that no "humbug" will deceive him.

THE ALLEGED WIFE-POISONING CASE IN NEW-JERSEY.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune NEWTON, Sussex Co., N. J., June 18, 1859.

The investigation into the circumstances attenting the death of Mrs. Helena T. Cole of the township of Montague, in this county, has been progressing for several days, and is exciting an unusual interest among all classes of citizens. The attendance upon the investigation has been large, and especially is there a great interest felt on the subject among the residents of Montague, many of whom have been present.

The investigation is before Abram Predmore, esq., Coroner of Sussex County. The State is represented by Whitfield S. Johnson, State Attorney for Sussex County, and Robert Hamilton. The interests of the prisoner, Solomon Cole, are intrusted to Thomas N. McCarter and John Linn.

The following is the testimony elicited:
The Hon. Isaac Bonnell was called and sworntestified that he knew deceased and prisoner; was present when the body was taken up and identified it; had talked with the President of the Life Insurance Company and Mrs. Cole's friends; the Insurance Comrepresentative in this matter stayed at his had told both Cole and Wickham that they night to have the body taken up and have the matter

investigated; Cole was willing; on the 3d of June Cole came to witness and voluntarily made the follow-ing affidavit, as witness thought it best to have it ing affidavit, as witness thought it best to have it dotte:

Surser County, State of New-Jersey —Personally appeared before ne. Issue Bonnell, one of the Justices of the Peace of the said county, Sedemon Code, who, upon his can, saith: That some time in August last he and his wife went over to D. D. Wickman's and there got into a conversation about having their lives insured; Wirkham told them it would be a good thing: that he, Wickman, and his wife both but their lives insured, and he very much approved of the plan; Mrs. Cole then asked Wickham and his wife both but their lives insured, and he very much approved of the plan; Mrs. Cole then asked Wickham and the wife of the plan; the asked Wickham and the property of the plan; the asked Wickham and the property of the plan; the asked Wickham and the property of the plan; the asked Wickham and the property of the plan; the asked Wickham and the property of the plan; the asked Wickham and the property of the plan; the property of the plan; the plan of the plan; the asked Wickham and the property of the plan; the plan of the plan of the plan; the plan of the plan of the plan of the plan; the plan of the p

Witness told Cole of rumors about him; of his car rying arms to oppose an arrest; Cole denied them; Cole was at the inquest, and appeared uneasy; said he was afraid that Wickham would do or say something to implicate him, but he was innocent; Cole gave no inimpireate him, but he was innocen; Cole gave no in-formation in any way to assist the investigation for the cross-examination; witness testified that Cole had said he knew nothing about the medicine Wickham had given to his wife; when asked why he employed Wick-ham to attend his wife, he living twelve miles distant, Cole said it was because his wife wished it; Cole said they first thought of the life insurance from reading a pamphiet they saw in Wicknam's office; that Mrs. Cole was the first to suggest it; that they meant both to have their lives insured for their mutual benefit, but Cole could not afford to have his too; Solomon West-

fell told withers that Dr. Wickbam was agent for the Knickerbocker Insurance Company; Cole was ignorant and early influenced; curing the April Court, they wanted witness a shidavit of the death of Mrs. Cole, as they wanted the money; Wickham said he intended going South; he did not want to talk to witness upon the subject.

Dr. John Schemell was next sworn and examined; the testifies that he was a physician reedding at idliford, Pa.; knew Mrs. Cole before marriags, but sikhty, was first called to acted her on Sunday, March 13; she had had a convulsion that morning; he bled her, and left some pills, and told Cole if she had convulsions during her confinement, he must send for a physician, and not trust to the old women who were to nurse her; Mrs. Cole told him that she had had nedicine of Dr. Wickham during the Wister; witness was called at the time of Mrs. Cole's confinement, and he left her as well as could be expected; when next he called she was dead; it was a week afterward; in October last had examined Mrs. Cole with reference to her obtaining an insurance on her life from a Life Insurance Company; he had given her a "clean bill of health;" he was not the agent of the company, but he had acted on this occasion; deceased thought her liver was diseased, but witness saw mo evidence of it; assisted Drs. Emerson, Hunt and Allen, at a post-mortem examination of her; Dr. Wickham was there and took sone interest in it; the face was covered with green mold, caused by the tane which had elapsed since the death, the lungs were congested—that is, filled with blood; the heart was healthy—and there was no cisease in the heart was healthy—and there was no cisease in the heart was healthy—and there was no cisease in the heart was test to the chemist in New-York to be analyzed; the disease extended to the incisease in the head; the stoonsch was highly inflamed; there was an ounce of dark brown fluid in it which had been taken cut and sect to the chemist in New-York to be analyzed; the disease extended to the intestines near the stomach, but there was no inflammation of the intestines extending further; from the appearance of the stomach, in connection with the suddenness of the death, winness thinks she did not die of disease of the stomach; congestion of the lungs die not cause her death; that might havetaken place at the time of her death; there was much fluid in the upper part of the lungs, and bloosy serum, probably from eccomposition; rome poisons would produce congestion and derangement of the stomach, gas, flatulency, &c.; saw nothing of this on examination; small does a of poison would be likely to produce on the stomach the effect we saw; liver and kidneys were sound; saw no sexual disease; bowels were healthy; discovered nothing an arural in them; the diseased state of the stomach was all we saw likely to produce death; the agreement be ween Cole and his wife was that both should have their lives insured for each death; the agreement be ween Cole and his while was that both should have their lives insured for each other's benefit; he was called to examine Mrs. Cole because he lived near he; about these weeks after her death, he heard from Cole that the policy had been assigned to him; witness made an affidavit in regard to her death in April, at Newton; Wickham showed wither death in April, at Newton; Wickham showed witness a statement in regard to her deate, which he wished witness to sign, but he would not; Wickham wished it made, as it might come before the Court; Wickham saio she had died of schirrous liver and syphilis, and he accounted for her death by the spinal column and brain being effect in with venereal poison; his treatment for this, he to d wi ness, had been indine, tincture of rhubarb, blue pill, extract of nux vomica, combined with aloes or some other cathernic; Mrs. Cole told witness nothing of these diseases when he visited her; witness did not sign Wickham's statement, but made a simple affidavit of what he knew; witness discovered no evicence of senirrous liver at the post mortem examinatio.

Witness in his cross-examination gave an account of the life insurance policy, also of the examination in reference to it; he thought the convulsion on the 13th of March might have been caused by eating a piece of pickle; the whole stomach was found diseased; the nuccous near brane was rea, soft and tender; it was a ittle decomposed; to reduces was discovered in the brain, which was softer than natural, perhaps from the length of time since death; the brain was discoted; no deposits were found in the valves of the heart; if discase of the stomach had caused her death it would have been more lingering; nothing was discovered to indicate that death was produced by convulsions, and for that reason an analysis of the

stomach was desired.

Dr J L. Allen, being sworn, says he never saw deceased before death, to his knowledge; at the post mortam examination he was present; Dr. Hunt did most of the disrecting, assisted at times by Dr. Emer-

son of Milford.

The testimony, so far as relates to appearance of body, was substantially the same as that of Dr. Sche-

Witness thought, had be never known circumstances attending on the case, from the appearance of the body on dissecting it, that the immediate cause of death had been congestion of the lungs. He testified that Dr. Wickham was present at the post mortem examination and took much interest in the dissection; Wickham came to his house he thought purposely to see him on the Monday following the examination, he wanted alvice as to his rights in this case, and the propriety of having counsel at the coroner's inquest, and whether it would be proper for him to accompany him to New-York with the stomach and contents. Wickham told him, in Newton, he had been advised that he might appear with counsel at the inquest; saw him on the following Wades-day at the Machaniar Hostel, in Naw-York, and then told him he had taken stomach and contents to Dr. Doremus, and told Dr. Doremus the treatment of patient previous to death, and that he could call and see if he stated the treatment correctly; witness stated to Dr Doremus what Wickham told him his treatment had been—the had given her extract of tar-xicum, (dandelion), extract of aux vomica, pulverized aloes, and was under the impression he said rinbarts this was for constitution of the bowels. For Witness thought, had he never known circumstances verized aloes, and was under the impression he said chubarb: this was for constipation of the bowels. For gave her ammonia and brancy. Afterwards, just preemetic of ipecae and antimony.

Isaac Cole, and lives but two miles from Solomon Cole; had known Mrs. Cole way years; they were married in June last year; was at prisoner's house at the confinement, which occurred on Monday, March 14; she saw her on Sunday, and on Monday evening—she saw her about noon on Sunday; she complained of having had a fit, but was better; the fit was in the forenoon; there were several other women there: Dr. Schemell was called at that time, and bled her; she took no medicine that witness remembers while she was here; she complained of gas on her stomach; she had eaten a small piece of pickle, which she thought had caused the convulsion; witness saw her again on Monday; she piece of pickle, which she thought had caused the convulsion; witness saw her again on Monday; she was then during confinement; Schemell came after the child was born, and remained until Tuesday; when witness left, she had taken no medicine; was there again on Thursday, and found Dr. Wickham had been there and left medicine; saw it in a teacup; it was a mixture, and white and clear like water; did not see her take may of it that day; Wickham came while they were getting dinner; tanks Wickham gave her some medicine, but is not certain. Irona Abers was her some medicine, but is not certain; Irene Abers was her nurse, and was there from Tuesday till Sunday; wit-ness stayed until Friday, and at that time Mrs. Cole was reasonably smart; saw her again on Sunday, be-tween 10 and 11 in the forenoon; Solomon Westfall and his wife were there; Mrs. Cole appeared to be smort, and was atteg up in bed; Susan Hornbeck was there; her mother came there while I was there; Cornelius Stavel came there; witness went into the room where Mrs. Cole was; she was cheerful and willing to talk; complained of the gas on her stomach; she asked for her medicine at 11 o'clock, and took about two-thirds of a teaspoorful from a tea-cup which witness gave her; she took nothing after and took about two-thirds of a teaspoolful from a tea-cup which witness gave her; she took nothing after it, neither water nor tea; witness supposes it was the same cup she had seen before; thinks she took about the last of the medicine; she continued smart for an hour and a half after; only complained of gas in the stomach; Dr. Wickham came between II and I2; he gave her no medicine in the forenous, I went into the room about fifteen minutes after Dr. Wickham came; the did not appear worse at that time, witness went back into the room when they were nearly through eating; Solomon Westfal, Susan Hornbeck, Dr. W., witness and bushard, and Leac Cole were at dinner; my mother-in-law came to the door of the room and said, "Mr. Wickham, Mrs. Cole would like to have you come into the room; 'no one was in the room but Mrs. Phorbe Cole, that I know of; I asked if she couldn't wait until the Ductor got through eating; he said he was through, and went into the room; I went in with Susan Hornbeck, and asked Wickham what I in with Susan Hornbeck, and asked Wickham what I should do; he told me to go to rubbing her, which she had told us to do when she had a spasm; I rubbed her, and the Doctor rubbed her, too; others assisted; she appeared as she did when she had spasms before; she sais, "Doctor, give me comething to take this gas off my stomach;" do not remember what he said; she "give me something or I shall die;" the Doctor her something—do not know what; he had a teagave her something—do not know what; he had a tea-cup and spoon; I soppose he prepared it then; I con-tinued to rub her; she was jiring down when he gave her medicine; she was sitting up when we were rub-bing her; he said she could lie down, and after that he gave her medicine, she said "God" and "Mouth" after she had lain down; she was convulsed and had violent spasms; she groaned and struggled and clasped her hands, and appeared to be in great misery; she died in convulsions, after he gave her misery; she died in convulsions, after he gave he medicine; Dr. Wickbam was in the room when she medicite; Dr. Wickham was in the room when she died; she died at 10 o'clock, or soon after—about an hour after the doctor came—fifteen minutes after the spasm seized her; she frothed some at the mouth after he gave her medicine; we put some camphor in her mouth, when she said "Mouth;" she said nothing of Dr. Schemell; Dr. Wickham did not ask for Dr. Schemell to be sent for before me; I did not see Wickham give her medicine before she had a spasm; Solomon lived in a confortable way, he had plenty of for mon lived in a comfortable way; he had plenty of for-niture; Dr. Wickham left in about an bour, before Dr. Schemell came; I did not help to lay her out; the sheets to lay her out were got in the chamber; I do not know if the sheets belonged to Mrs. C.; I went

with Susan Horr beck 'o find sheets, but did not know with Susan Horrbeck 'o find sheets, but did not know where they stored 'nem; my mother-in-law came up and went to the hed and took the sheets off, and said, "Here are sheets;" I do not know wast she found the sheets in; not in a basket; my mother-in-law found them; I do not know whose sheets they were; I did not see her carry anything there, no basket or bundle; she had something, but I did not open it, and I do not know the size of it; those sheets were used; I heard Dr. Wickbam say, on Thursday, that the seventh or eighth day after confinement would be the worst time fer her; I did not see Mr. Cole in the room during the last struggle, and did not see him in the room at all; Dr. Wickham attended her during the Fall and Winter; he gave her medicine at my house once; it was in a bottle or small vial. Witness has received a letter from a friend in New-York, but none from Dr. Wickham.

choe; it was in a bottle or small vial. Witness has received a letter from a friend in New-York, but none from Dr. Wickham.

Cross-examited—Mr. Solomon Cole and wife lived very happily together; on the first Sunday I was there she told me he had been so kind to her; if it had not been for him she would not have got through the first spasm; he was very much affected when she died; she wished Wick-am called in herself; Solomon Cole went after Wickham hunself; Dr. W. came in his suikey; he entered the house by the kitchen, and went into the back room; winess also went into the room about fifteen minutes afterward; Susan Hornbeck and Mrs. Phoebe Cole were in there; Susan Hornbeck came out and asked for sugar, she took in a teacup with sugar and a spoon; Mrs. Phoebe Cole was out when Susan Hornbeck took in sugar and spoon; Mrs. Cole was helping to get dinner; several people were in the room when I went in; Wickham was setting in a chair; I went out to do something for Mrs. Cole; Wickham came out while I was out, and did not go back again before dinner; I followed Wickham in when he went in after me; Heleua sat in bed rubbing her hands; Wickham was getting liquor or camphor—some they had in the room—he rubbed her arms and hands with it; he also put something between her lips—something he brought from the kitchen; I heard that Solomon sent for Dr. Schemell, but do not know it; Helena had more confidence in Wickham than in any other physicism; I staid at the house all night on Thursday night, at Helena's request; she said that night to Sol, "Soly, I am a good deal of trouble to you, but if I live I will use you better than ever before;" he said the trouble was nothing to him, and have courage, and we will get along yet; after Wickham met her at my house, was nothing to him, sad have courage, and we will get along yet; after Wickham met her at my house, she told me he said she was growing weaker, and she would have to be car ful or she would have to be car ful or she would have apoplexy or a stoke of palsy; this was about the lat of March; she told me they had been over to see Wickham, but he was gone to New-York, and when he came over he would call at our horse.

he was gone to New-York, and when he came over he would call at our house.

Examination in chief resumed.—Do not know that she had any other physician but Wickham and Schemell; she went to Wickham's the day after her marriage with her husband, so they said; do not know Wickham was treating her for any other disease; heard her say the doctor said she had dyspepsia; I gave her medicine the night I sat up with her, and Irene Abers gave her some too; I think Dr. Wickham left two kinds of medicine; he wanted a bottle, and this makes me think he left two kinds. I was not present at the marriage; Solonou was willing at the time to marry her, although a breach of promise suit was brought against hin; I did not hear her say she wanted the Rev. Mr. Thomas to preach her funeral sermon; heard she had told the neighbor women she was willing to die; Solomou Cole is a brother-in-law of mine; Isaac Cole is another brother.

mine; Isaac Cole is another brother.

Re-cross examined.—Did not see Solomon in the room when she died; he was in the room after she died; he was a vand the house; saw him shed tears after her death.
Direct resumed.—Did not see Cole and Wickham

talking tegether on the Sunday she died; I thought Helena was smart before I went into her room after dinner; I only heard of the life insurance a day or two before Solomon Cole, Dr. Schemell and others went to Newton on that bu

Newton on that business.

Mrs. Matilda Westfall, wife of Solomon Westfall,
gave testimony similar to Mrs. Coles.

A Mrs. Hawkins also gave testimony, but it was of

A Mrs. Hawkins also gave testimony, but it was of no importance to the care.

James Cole, being sworn, said he was a brother of the prisoner; he was at the house during the sickness of Mrs. Cole after confinement, about the middle of the week; Dr. Wickham was there at the time he was there; he was not in the sick room at all, but understood she was reasonably smart; he had a conversation with Solomon Cole in ralamon to the life insurance; Solomon told me they had agreed to have their lives insured, and one sign over to the other; he thought he understood the writings, for Mr. Cole's insurance had been drawn up but not sent in; here had been sent in; he understood Solomon to say they thought at the time they would both have their lives insured, and probably he would go away first, but he had come it, over her; this conversation was after her death, and

probably he would go away first, but he had come it over her; this conversation was after her death, and subsequent to the time they had been to Newton and to the city; understood him the insurance was \$4,000, but did not understand how much he was to have.

Being cross-szamined, witness said Solomon told him they had been over to Wickham's, and there found a small book with rules of Insurance Company in it; Mrs. Cole took it up, and asked Wickham what he thought of the plan; Wickham thought it a good plan, and they could take it and read it for their own satisfaction; Wickham and his wife had both had their lives insured; they brought the wook home with them; Solomen said he had not the means at present to do it, but his wife insisted it should be done; she said she

Solomon said he had not the means at present to do it, but his wife insisted it should be done; she said she had money coming from her brother, which she thought she could get: witness understood she had tried to get it, and had failed to do so; this is as far as he told ne, that I recollect.

Benjamin Core, being swern, says he is a cousin of defendant, and lives about a mile and three-quarters from him. He remembered a conversation with Solomon Cole about March 6th or 7th, in the road coming into the Deckertown turnpike, as he was hauling wood; Solomon said to witness he thought Silas Suydam had Solomon said to witness he thought Silas Suydam had meddled and helped him is to the courtship between him Mrs. Mary Ann Cole, sworn-Says she is the wife of and Helena; he said he had got into trouble, and did not know how he could get out of it without marrying her, unless he spent part of his property to get rid of her; and didn't know how he should get rid of her without he outlived her; did not know he would have any chance for comfort without he outlived her. This conversation was in March last; they had talked of this last fall, but he does not remember the conversation exactly. Witness is "dreadful forgetful;" never

heard him speak of this at any other time. heard him speak of this at any other time.

On cross-examination he said Solomon and he had not been intimate, and were not frieadly; Solomon had helped to get him indicated for obstructing a road; witness does not recollect he ever said he meant to be even with him; I told him I rather thought Silas Suydam was against him; don't know I told him if he had applied to me I could have helped him; since the indictment we have had no friendly intercourse, but have talked together when we met; I first told this conversation to my wife, and afterwards to others; I told it before his wife's death; I give the conversation as near as I recollect it; I will not say for certainty about it.

about it.

Isaac Cole sworn: Is a brother of the defendant; witness and his wife went to defendant's house the morning his wifedied; he did not go into the sick room, but looked through the door; Mrs. Cole said to him, "Come in and see what I have in bed;" she was sitting up; he was there when Wickham came; Mrs. Colo up; he was there when Wickham came; airs, con-seemed to have a convulsion as he saw her through the door at that time; he saw Dr. Wickham give her something, which he took to her bed and put in her mouth; he don't know what it was; did not learn about the insurance, until Solomon and the others came over to Newton after her death; he learned of it from Solomon himself; he wanted my wagen to come to Selomon himself; he wanted my wagon to come to Newton; he said he had his wife a life insured, and he wanted to come to Newton to have the papers made out; he gave the amount at \$4,000 but said nothing to me about the assignment; did not say whether he was to have it all; I do not know if Wickham came over with him; have not talked with him on the subject since; witness knows Wickham; has not had any letters from him.

since; witness knows to the says he went for Dr.
Being cross-examined, he says he went for Dr.
Schemell that day at Solomons request; he gave me
directions to hurry; I took his horse and wagon; Sol.
told me, while hitching up, not to spare the horse, but
to put him right through; Sol. was around the house,
but was pretty well cast down, and shed tears when he asked me to go for the doctor; Solomon and his wife lived agreeably as most folks; was there when Wick-ham came; Sol, took his horse and Wickham went into the house; couldn't say if he went into the room; when I got to the house Wickham was on the stoop;

Sol. was at the stable.

Mrs. Phoebe Cole being sworn, says she is the mother of Solomon Cole, and knew his wife before marriage; her testimony is not materially different from that of Mrs. Isaac Cole; it evinced some pertiality from thet of Mrs. I sac Cole; it evinced some partiality for the prisoner, as was very natural; she testified to the good teeling existing between the prisoner and his wife before her death, and his grief at that time; she said she brought the sheets found in the chamber, and in which the body was laid out, to the house that morning; she said she did not take them with the intention of laying her out in them; there were no other sheets in the house that were suitable for that purpose; she took them to change the bed, as witness knew some of their sheets were dirty, and others were wet, and Mrs. Cole had not had the sheets on the bed changed since the birth of the child, and she had had no change for underclothing; she said she knew nothing of Solomon's insurance business; he was not in the habit of telling her of his business.

On the cross-examination, she stated that Solomon was not absent from home at the time of his wife's sickness, except to get the doctor or to obtain anyest for her; and that his wife had said she never wanted a better husband than Solomon had been, and that she pitted him; Solomon was sick in sonsequence of his attentions to be seen and that she pitted him; Solomon was sick in sonsequence of his attentions to be seen and that she pitted him; Solomon was sick in sonsequence of his attentions.

pitied him; Solomon was sick in consequence of his at-

entions to her.
Susan Hornbeck, being sworn, says-she lived one